The fresh and confiding personal notices with which this volume abounds give it the attractions of an autobiegraphy, as well as of an intelligent and singularly suggestive record of foreign travel. The peculiar eircumstances, moreover, under which it has been prepared for the press lend it an additional interest. It able contributions in various departments to our native Herature, and is now enriched with the fruits of many studious and thoughtful years, combining the vivacity

Soon after leaving Harvard College in 1823, Mr. Calvert took passage for England with the view of visiting some near family relatives in Belgium, and of pursuing his studies in one of the celebrated German universities which at that time were a favorite resort with many young men of literary aspirations in this country. The vessel in which he sailed was one of the British royal packets which had been taken for himself and suite by Mr. Strafford Canning, then Minister to the United States, who was about to return home, and who had proposed to the father of the young student, intent on foreign love and foreign

Mr. Calvert's description of his first experiences after his arrival on the continent affords some agree-able glimpses of Belgian society and domestic life.

of fourth and fifth commission.

The position of the young American Protestant in the bosom of an ancient Catholic family presented many striking contrasts, and when called to mind after a long interval of years, gives occasion to a

after a long interval of years, gives occasion or conse of sage moralizing, which throughout the volume seintimately blended with the personal narrative.

A few weeks after my arrival at Antwerp, we moved into fown. Beside the academic walks through the Masseum, I sow had lessons at home in architecture from a professor of that art. I should rather say. I had lessons in the mechanism of the Greek columnar styles. I became acquainted with the external char-acteristics of the three orders. I Pearmed the shapes and names of dentiles and modifilems and meddings, and all about the en-

Now not only the best way, but the only good way, to tench even the very young, is through principles. Children are eager for the why and the wherefore, and the boy who breaks his dram to discover the cause of its sound, is in the wides seger for the why and the wherefore, and the boy who breaks his dram to discover the cause of its sound, is in the widest sense representative. Much carlier than most people are award, youthful minds not only grass principles, but take in statements that involve large sleas, and carry the thoughts high and fur. The whole they will of course not take in, but emough to be a germ, and a germ that will instinctively feed itself by clasping roots round many particulars. Put a good principle into the mind, and upon it you can hang scores of facts, and serice of facts, which without their hold will soon drop out or be efficied.

My Profussor was, physiognomically, one-of-those exceptional men whom one occasionally meets, and many often, perhaps, in continental chies than claswhere—men who in the mingling together of races and familities seem to have been underkneaded, overlooked on the edge of the tray, and come out of the own marked with singularity. He had much of the Indian's complexion and face, with straight, black, unelectrified hair and principles of the production of the coronal region—a chape which excludes, in the manor race in whom it is found, all positic susceptibility and artisate liveliness. Lucky for him, his architectural ambitions did not outeparke those of his neighbors. An were was for the time architecturally finished; there was no room there then for creation or invention. To keep the old seconds of a contract of coronal regioneric in the limit of a builder's

she lofty light, upsyringing colonnades without weakness—just binting at the conditions of this union; then educated my perception to the purpose and grace of the mainfield details; and then smally, presented to my now enlarged perception, the whole, mide and ont, in all its afrial vastness, he roomy magnificence—had this been done, I should, even in a short series of lessons, have taken hevery much of the very essence of architecture. The great building, and with it all building, would have mingled liself in merrous movement, in imposing power, with my higher faculties. I should have carried as a vital knowledge, which would have been a light in my mind forever. But for this kind of teaching the teachers are yet few, and from the primary school to the archefite academy, routine as method, and memor as means, are more sainable to the capacities of instructors than are lively, confident appeals to the reason and the noble sensibilities.

The such impressive, attractive initiation, my uncle was not disposed or qualified for he was an accomplished dilettabite, not an across student of art.

Unless men handle actively the thoughts and institutions which they inherit as a golden bond of power, adding by steen-wous invention fresh links to give themselves a purchase on the present and future, the past becomes a tightening halter that strangles their freedom. My professor wore his part of the chair quiescently, passively, incomes any noted himself—with far higher capabilities—at all aware to what degree he was beautioused by the examinate air of custom.

The Autumn had worn away; Whiter had come; and I was still at Antwerp. The domestication under his childres root of a fresh fall-grown nephew from the new world was an event in the quiet, comparatively vacant, lift of my nucle. People who have industrial inaction on their incomes, and who lack mental force or impulsiveness to create numaterial interests, moral threshead, or asthetic, have to daily battle with Time; for Time will kill them if they cannot kill him. To maintain the fight they are oblived—humilating obligation—to make the prosale means of the its end; so that neals—purposely prolonged—and dressing, and distant supervision of pecunitary interests, and minor/social duties, and exverse, become their occupations, wherewish by the aid of the amasements of victing, passive reading, small talk, games, cards, tobacco, they fill the vacuum left by sleep. My nucle feed tobacco in no form; and cards I never as win his house.

-The recurrent routine of my uncle as was studently broken and entirend by my arrival. I became at once an object to his in tellect and his affections. My heresy did not, as I have latimated, much distruct him individual; ascribe infallishing to that shallow self-right counter with persons of variant religious convictions not to feel by habit the absurd unhumanity of that shallow self-right counters white freeds as purious piety with the poloned deliphings of arrogance, and, b

my father recommending st.

On his way from Antwerp to Göttingen, the young traveler passes through the renowned city of Frankfort, which has recently awakened such a universal interest in the civilized world by its forced subjection to the rule of Prussia, and the retrospect of his visit calls forth a train of characteristic reflections with regard to the great poet to whom his subsequent studies have been so largely and so successfully devoted.

studies have been so largely and so successfully devoted.

Of the transcendent glory of Frankfort among German cities. I then had hardly a faint comprehension; for I had not happened to have read-what alone of docute was in that day accessible to foreigners.—'The Sorrows of Werter, the English translation of which having been made from a loos French care, would stand to the original as would the refuse from the recky tub of a shottish washerwoman, attacted in water, to the recky tub of a shottish washerwoman, attacted in water, to the recky tub of a shottish washerwoman, attacted in water, to the recky tub of a shottish washerwoman, attacted in water, to the recky tub of a shottish washerwoman, attacted in water, to the recky tub of a shottish washerwoman, attacted the was remote and nebalons. The sweet, sightly succeilent ears of his wisdom lay harried to me in the multiplex lawks of German verbs, adjectives nouns, adverbs. Even when, on heaving Germany, I brought away a key to all theriches of a great hapt garden within the page at the same could only be partially vasued, for it is a profound virtue of this post anget that his meanings reveal them pages to delight and enlarge seasoned chastened minds; and in our later years the quiet emanations from his gentor still fire in the trains that but for their would have his latent forever, arouning and refreshing in though committure of their life with ours, like the rays of an afternoon sun striking tipon a line of pictures, that award of yarapian hight in Weiman Goethe occasionally descended into the busy frequented state of his native cliff, this with to find a German town, however procate its procedures, that would not recognize, even if it could not fairly ived to a ripe old age in Frankfort, and who, in his many sidedness and clear affections or weither twinnene. Goethe, whose mother lived to a ripe old age in Frankfort, and who, in his many sidedness and clear affections or weither twinnene.

day at Frankfort, I tarried there through the week "seeing sights," driving into the country, and going to the opera. On Monday noom, the lifth, with a letter of credit on Gottingen and a hundred silver forins in my pocket, I took passage in the public coach, which traveling day and night, with stops for medis, reached Cassel on Wednesday morning. It was a dreary dispressive journey, made so in partby my companions, made and female, not one of whom could speak a word of English, and two or three only a lattle Tentonio Franco. They seemed

The chapters on Weimar and Göttingen, He often carries his illustrations to the extreme verge of rhetorical propriety. With a fertile imagination, a crowd of fancies and comparisons always seen to haunt his progress, many of which a more rigid judgment in selection would down to perpetual silence, or at least to a severe pruning and curtainment. In the choice of words, as well as in the construction of sentences, we detect a want of neatness and harmony which sensibly diminishes the pleasure of the reader. Some of the paragraphs remind one of the roughness of a chestnut bur, rather than of the polish of ripefruit, but if one will have sufficient patience, he will be sure to find within a sweet and wholesome kernel. It is ungracious, however, to dwell on such minor de-It is ungracious, however, to dwell on such minor de-fects in a volume which contains so much substantial wealth of thought, such justness of taste and criticism, and so many animated and pleasant descriptions, which tempt and amply reward the most diligent

WHIPPLE'S CHARACTER AND CHARACTER-ISTIC MEN.

CHARACTER AND CHARACTERISTIC MEN. By Edwin P. While E. 12mo, pp. 224. Ticknor & Fields. It is seldom that writings prepared for occasional

spurposes exhibit any qualities which afford assurance of permanent interest. The charm of the lecture, the anniversary discourse, the popular oration, the brilliant article in the magazine or daily journal, passes away with the excitements of the opportunity that gave them birth. The public taste is less exacting in regard to performances which lay no claim on the future, but are prompted by the demands of a present necessity. Often the production of the moment awakens an agreeable surprise by its contrast with the inferior matter that is found in its company. A composition of a little more than the usual brilliancy or grace is extolled in a periodical when it would meet with but slight favor in a book. Hence, literary merit is severely tested when it comes to judgment in the pages of a volume. As a rule, an author who has gained credit by the ephemeral creations of his pen is guilty of an unwise ambition if he covets the honor of guilty of an unwise ambition is he covers the nonof of seeing them preserved in good type and handsome binding. Of course there are signal exceptions to the correctness of these remarks. There are some authors whom we are delighted to meet in whatever authors whem we are delighted to meet in whatever form they may make their appearance. Come when they will, they are always welcome. Served up in every shape, even ten times repeated, their broken fragments find a caressing reception. Not a line from the pen of Washington Irving or Thackersy, though it has done duty in a hundred ways, but possesses a many control of the line writer, though chalpriceless value. The living writer, though challenging no comparison with those illustrious musters of the pen, who can yet command the attention of the public to the echoes of his past utterance, thereby legitimates his claim to the possession of qualities of

In questioning the general value of miscellaneous reprints, we have had reference to the author of the present volume only in the way of contrast. Impressed with pression, and affluent illustration, which vivify its pages, we have been naturally reminded of the signal difference between them and the mediocre productions which aspire from a transient reputation to lasting fame—the mortal vainly striving to put on immortal-ity. Mr. Whipple, on the contrary, is the possessor of intellectual traits which entitle the offspring of his of intellectual traits which entitle the offspring of his mind to an honorable place in our permanent literature. He is essentially a man of books. He has read widely, and read well. His singular facility of association makes what he has once mastered his own forever. His derterous handling of the large resources of literary history is remarkable. Few men, even those whose lives have been exclusively devoted to letters, have such a wide acquaintance with the written wisdom of the great teachers of every age. But he is never oppressed with the burden of eradition. He has too rich a vitality of mind to become the slave of his own studies. No favorite master of thought exercises sufficient power over his spirit to impair the exercises sufficient power over his spirit to impair the elasticity of its temper. He is singularly receptive of the highest ideas; he never disdains to accept impressions from worthy and noble external sources; but he does not cease, on that account, to keep his own writer, but his position in regard to him is clearly set forces completely in hand; his reverence never beforth, and maintained with remarkable address and

of his fame, or vitiating the purity of his estimates by personal autipathies. The paltry rivalries for which a certain class of pretenders to literary honors are proverbial, are wholly foreign to his nature. His decisions, though we do not say that they always command our assent, are founded on broad and generous principles. If he sometimes fails in their application,

or words. His sentences migat be consecuted into a more polished surface, with a greater neatness of finish, without losing their naturalness or becoming finical or effeminate. They are never wanting in point or force, often even they are models of sinewy strength; but they would have no less masculine energy if they exhibited a little more elegance and grace in

In rare cases, Mr. Whipple's vivacity seems to be combined with a slight dash of petnlance. Though not easily provoked, his patience is not absolutely inexhaustible. His toleration of duliness and pretension is perhaps greater than is common with en, but it will hardly entitle him to a place among

Some favorite forms of expression are of such fre-Some favorite forms of expression are of such frequent recurrence, although their tomperate use doubtless enhances the irreliness of his style, as almost to subject Mr. Whipple to the charge of a tendency at least to an occasional vicious mannerism. He indulges largely in the figure of antithesis, and often with admirable effect. Many of his happiest sentences are suggested by an autithesis of thought. For internet of the conservative is his "The great danger of the conservative is his temptation to surrender character and trust in babits; the great danger of the radical is his temptation to dis-card habits without forming character. One is liable to mental apathy, the other to mental anarchy; and

to mental apathy, the other to mental anarchy; and apathy and anarchy are equally destitute of causative force and e-sential individuality.

Another passage presents a string of well-conceived antitheses, and, as a whole, presents a favorable illustration of Mr. Whipple's characteristic style: "Carlyle, aways writing of heroism, is rarely heroic, because he hates falsehood rather than loves truth, and is a disorganizer of wrong rather than an organizer of right. His writings tend to spall the mind into a kind of splendid disorder, and we purchase some shining fragments of thought at the expense of weakened will. Being negative, he cannot communi-cate life and inspiration to others; for negation ends in despair, and love alone can communicate the life of hope. His negative thought, therefore, can never become a positive thing; it can pour, sueer, g.be, growl, hate, declaim, destroy; but it cannot cheer, it cannot

hatred, all the fear, are incidental and accidental, not central and positive. We should hardly style old central and positive. We should hardly style old King Clovis a saint on the strength of the possion he flow into when the account of the Crucinxion was read to him, and of his fierce exclamation. I would I had been there with my valuant Franks! I would

have redressed his wrongs:

We cannot, however, approve so highly of a sentence like the following, in which the analysis seems to have been made for the sake of the verbal jingle at live energy which is its essential characteristic; and to assert that circumstances are the creation of character, is to endow character with the power not only to create, but to firmish the materials of creation. The result of both processes would not be character, but

Similar examples, perhaps not greatly to be blamed, but still presenting rather a meretricious play on words are occasionally to be found: "A collection of poetic materials, not fused, but confused." "Whose many-sidedness was the feeble expression of a person

lity without sufficient to rise even into one-sidedness."
If Webster as an erator was inductive, and Calin deductive, Clay was most assuredly seduc A few examples may be collected of expressions that are uncouth as cubs which the mother bear has not yet-licked into chape: "The Bible vanishes in a pause of deglutitional satisfaction." "Through all the fear, and discord, and fussy miscreativeness of such chaotic minds, there runs an unmistakable indisuch chaotic minds, there runs an unmistakable indi-viduality by which you can discriminate one erazy head from another." "In the panegyric of cold spirits, Washington disappears in a cloud of common-places; in the rhodomoutade of boiling patriots, he expires in the agonies of rant."

The essay on "Character," with which the volume opens, draws its principal illustrations from the his-tory of emment men of letters in different countries. It abounds in the picest distinctions, and expressed

It abounds in the nicest distinctions, and expresses many prefound and subtle views of life in vigorous language. Nothing could be better in its kind than the acute discrimination with which the genius of Gib-

the acute discrimination with which the gentee of bon is defined:

Guizot and Milman have both subjected the original authorities, consulted by Gibbon in his history of the Decline and Fail of the Roman Empire, to the intensest scrutiny, to see if the historian has perverted, falsified, or suppressed facts. Their judgment is in favor of his honesty and his conscientious research. Yet this by no means proves that we can obtain through his history the real trues, of persons and events. The whole immense tract of history he traverses he has thoroughly Gibbonized. The qualities of his character steal out in every paragraph the words are instinct with Gibbonize and true they are disposed are communicated from within, and the human race for fifteen centuries is made tributary to Gibbon's thought, wears the celors and badges of Gibbon's nature, is denied the possession of any pure and excited experiences which Gibbon cannot verify by his own; and the reader, who is magnetized by the historian's genius, rises from the perusal of the vast work informed of nothing as it was in inself, but everything as it appeared to Gibbon, and especially doubting two things—that there is any chastily in women, or any divine truth in

that there is any chastity in women, or any divine truth in Christianity.

Passages are not rare which, by their condensation of thought and exuberant energy of expression, remind one of the better days of English press. The following on the necessary limitation of freedom is selected not as the best, but as one of the briefest:

Freedom no less than order is the product of inward or entward restraint; and that large and liberal discourse of intelligence which thinks into the meaning of institutions, and extern into communion with other minds—which is glad to believe that the reason of the rare through sixty conturies of gradual development carries with it more suthority than some with fresh or flash of its own concert—this it is which emancipates man from egotism, passion, and fully which pats into his will the fine instituct of wisdown which, makes him tolerant as well as carnest, and mereiful as well as just, which connects his thoughts with things, and opens a passage for them into the common consciousness of men and which, chaining impulse to liberate intelligence, and rounding in eccentricity with the restraints of reason, enlarges his intellect only to inform his conscience, doubles his power by giving it a right direction, and purifies his nature from vanity and self-will, to him him, in the location of the production of the common sense, to the rights, interests, and advancement of a common sense, to the rights, interests, and advancement of a common humanity.

Mr. Whitpple's habits of thought have a strong and

points, and in copions illustration; but he is often in-spired by some generous, kindling thought, or high moral sentiment, when he naturally ascends into the

"Filling the soul with continents august; The beautiful, the brave the only and the just." forces completely in hand; his reverence never becomes servility, nor his submission to good influences,
passiveness.

In his critical capacity, the department in which
perhaps he has wen his highest distinctions, Mr.
Whipple is remarkable as much for the justness of his
intentions as for the sugacity of his judgments. No
love of paradox, no tempastion of rhetorical effect, no
assumptions of originality, are permitted to allure him
from the integrity of his purpose in deciding on the
merits of intellectual productions. We need not say
that he is never guilty of the indescribable meanness
of disparaging the works of an author through jealousy
of his fame, or vitilating the purity of his estimates by
bersonnal authorathies. The pathry rivalrices for which out preaching, without declamation, without dogma-tism, but with irresistible force, the duty of selfreliance, of fortitude, of facing danger, of looking an enemy in the eye, of never shrinking from evil through craven fear. One can hardly gave on the grand, in-movable, lion-like expression of Thackeray's counte-nance, or become permeated with the spirit of his seniom from narrowness of view, but from the necessary limitation of the human faculties.

The diction of Mr. Whipple, though often betraying a curious elaborateness of structure, does not always do justice to the clear and sharp outlines of his thought. In numerous instances, the precision of the idea is impaired by a too luxurious expenditure of work. nant distinctions, and admirably defends Thackeray from the vulgar charge of cynleism and misanthropy.

Gived originally with a loyens temperament a vigorous understanding a keep sensibility and a decided, though some viant incolont self-reliance he appears, before he came before the world as a writer, to have each through most of the ordinary forms of human pretension, and to have had a considerable experience of human rascality. He less a fortune in the process of learning the various vanities follies and artiface he afterward exposed, and thus may be considered to have fairly carried the tright to be their satilist. A min who has been decived by a hypocrite or cleated by a rogue describes hypocrites and rogues from a sharper inagist, and with a keep scorn than a man who knows them only from the observation of their victims. Trustess prighter and truths, and heapsars into certainties, make the touch of such an artist. As a man's powers are determined in their direction by his materials, as what he has seen known and assimilated becomes a part of his intellect and individuality. Thackerny obsered the mere instinct of his genins in becoming the delinenter of manners and the satirst of shams. The artificial—sometimes as complicated with the ratival, sometimes as entirely overhalping it, sometimes as conic obtain their oppropriate exercises. They had indeed grown into powers by the nurciness devived from it, and took to their game as the dark taxes to the water. From the worst consequences of this perilons mountal direction he was sayed by his tendermass of heart, and his love and appreciation of simple, unpercending noral excellence. He never hardened into misanthropy or soured into expinism. Minch of his representation of the selfah, the dissolute, the hard hearted and the worthless. Those who accuse him decidence. They had indeed into misanthropy or soured into expinism for the manner in which he depicted these most expect a toleration after the fashion of the Regent Duic of Orleans. "who thought," says Macani

It is not often that Mr. Whipple allows himself the expression of a hasty judgment, or repeats an opinion that has no better suthority than tradition or fashiou. A passing allusion to Spinoza as "entangling your poor wit in inextrauctible meshes of argumentation," appears, however, to have escaped him without due reflection, as we can hardly ascribe it to deficient lectual or setheric eminence. Goethe, whose mother lived to special gradients and who, in his many adedness and relear diptoliness, knew the value of all kinds of activities, endormed and the declaim, destroy; but it cannot cheer, it is not hat edeclared by the charge in the cannot cheer, it is not in the cannot cheer, it canno

f heaven, which makes the heroic saint. All the than Euclid; and far less so than Kant, Fichte, or Hegel, his immediate successors in the history of speculative thought; and perhaps less than even Comic, Sir William Hamilton, or Herbert Spencer. Comie, Sir Wilham Hamilton, or Herbert Spencer. His theological and political tractate published during his lifetime, which contains the germ of modern critical science as applied to the illustration of the Scriptures, is a model of lucid exposition, and not less remarkable for the naive simplicity of its style than for the revolutionary character of its ideas. Whatever charges may be brought against that brave and modest thinker, he certainly cannot be reproached with lying in wait, like a spider, and spreading out "inextricable meshes of argumentation" as a trap to entangle human wit.

entangle human wit.

Nor does Mr. Whipple do complete justice to Cousin, when he refers to that brilliant founder of the French Eclectic school as "excoglating a Deity who is rather a fine effect of philosophic rhetoric than an obrather a fine effect of philosophic rhetoric than an ob-ject of worship." It is easy to stignatize all attempts to prove the Divine Existence as irreconcilable with the spirit of devotion; since feeling takes for granted what reason attempts to demonstrate; but as com-pared with other efforts of the kind, the argument of Cousin is not only of superior logical force, but touches more deeply the springs of religious life. How many minds wearied and baffled by the jejune deductions of such reasoners as Dr. Samuel Clarke, or the mechanical scene-painting of that master of plans-ible decoration. Dr. Paler, have found fresh light and the decoration, Dr. Paley, have found fresh light and strength, and an immovable basis of worship, in the magnificent generalizations of Cousin!

The portions of Mr. Whipple's volume which inte-

The portions of Mr. Whippie's volume when interest us most deeply, and which present the most attractive illustration of his admirable powers, are the personal sketches in which his heart goes with his head, and in which the excitement of faciling lends sweetness and pathos to his style. The tributes to Starr King and Edward Everett evince a delicate appreciation of rare moral and intellectual worth, and glow with feelings of reverent and affectionate remembrance which clothe the exand affectionate remembrance which cloths the expression with unwonted grace and beauty. The same may be said of the paper on Agassiz, so far as it relates to the traits of his private character without reference to his scientific position. Next in order of merit, in our opinion, come the literary criticisms, which by their freedom from all vices of the kind, not only present a striking contrast to the vapid common places, puerile rhetoric, and unconscientious super-ticialness, which often infest that department of writing, but which are singularly acute, reflective, and discriminating, aillnest in original thought, as w racy and often eloquent in expression. Last of all, we should place the abstract generalizations, which though for the most part ingenious and subtle, are sometimes spun out into too fine threads for the ordi-nary patience of "our fallen race," and sometimes provoke obstinate questionings which are inconvenient to readers who have a distaste for controversy.

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